

EXHIBIT 9

DATE 02/22/13

HB 2

**** Bill No. ****

Introduced By *****

By Request of the *****

A Bill for an Act entitled: "An Act establishing a military economic impact task force concerning retention and development of military installations and force structures to provide economic development opportunities in Montana; allocating the task force to the department of commerce for administrative purposes; and providing for task force membership, expense reimbursement, and duties."

WHEREAS, the Montana National Guard provides more than \$182,000,000 in economic impetus to the State of Montana, and the total federal economic impetus of the Montana Department of Military Affairs and the National Guard to the State of Montana is over \$196,000,000; and

WHEREAS, Malmstrom Air Force Base provides more than \$610,000,000 in economic impetus to the State of Montana, airmen stationed at Malmstrom own an estimated 1,116 homes in Montana, military construction and service contracts provide more than \$34,000,000 to local developers, the base spends more than \$10,400,000 for utilities, and Malmstrom services more than 7,000 miles of roads in Montana, which benefits Montana's commerce; and

WHEREAS, the federal sequestration, fiscal cliff, and base realignment and closure activities, and other cost cutting measures will put current military missions and assets in Montana and,

therefore, Montana's economic well-being at risk now and well into the future; and

WHEREAS, states with military missions and assets have formed statewide advocacy groups to help protect existing military force structures in their states, identify new missions, educate the public, and promote economic development tied to the military, and Montana is the last state to lack such a statewide organization, which clearly affects Montana's ability to be successful as national cuts to the military are implemented.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Montana:

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Montana military economic impact task force -- membership -- compensation -- duties.** (1) There is a Montana military economic impact task force consisting of seven voting and two nonvoting members, as follows:

- (a) the voting members are:
 - (i) the adjutant general, who shall represent the Montana national guard;
 - (ii) a state senator appointed by the president of the senate;
 - (iii) a state representative appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;
 - (iv) a member appointed by the governor to represent Montana's business community;
 - (v) a member appointed by the highest ranking active component military commander on active duty in Montana, if the commander agrees

to make the appointment, to be a liaison to the task force on behalf of the active military forces stationed in Montana;

(vi) a veteran of the armed forces appointed by the governor who is knowledgeable about active and reserve component force structures and how various force structures may be configured in Montana to support national defense missions as well as state disasters and emergencies; and

(vii) a member with knowledge of the employment challenges experienced by national guard and federal reserve members during and after their service, to be appointed by the presiding officer of the employers support for guard and reserve organization or, in the absence of this organization, appointed by the governor.

(b) the nonvoting members are:

(i) a member appointed by the governor to advise the committee about congressional lobbying and education; and

(ii) a member appointed by the governor to advise the committee on veterans' issues.

(2) (a) The task force shall elect a presiding officer from among its voting members. Task force meetings are subject to the open meetings laws provided in Title 2, chapter 3, part 2.

(b) The task force is allocated to the department of commerce for administrative purposes only, as provided in 2-15-121, which shall provide staff and administrative support to the task force.

(c) Task force members are entitled to reimbursement for expenses as provided in 2-18-501 through 2-18-503.

(3) The purpose of the task force is to:

(a) advocate for retention and development of military missions, installations, and force structures that provide economic development opportunities in Montana; and

(b) educate the public, legislature, and congressional delegation about the economic impact of current and future military development in Montana.

(4) In fulfilling its purpose under subsection (3), the task force shall:

(a) examine potential base realignment and closure actions;

(b) study the economic impact that the active and reserve component military missions and force structures in Montana have on Montana's economy;

(c) develop a strategic plan for how to position Montana with respect to potential base realignment and closure actions so that Montana has the best possible opportunity to retain and develop future military economic development opportunities;

(d) provide regular updates on task force activities to the governor, the president of the Senate, and the speaker of the house;

(e) prepare reports and presentations consistent with its purpose and duties;

(f) lobby members of congress and act as a liaison with civilian and military personnel engaged in making decisions concerning current and potential military missions and active and reserve component force structures in Montana; and

(h) work and coordinate with other local and state military advocacy organizations as necessary.

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(5) A member's term of office is 4 years. A legislative member may continue to serve for the 4 years even if the member's legislative term expires. A member appointed to fill a vacancy may serve only for the remainder of the previous member's term. A member may be reappointed.

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. {standard} Codification instruction.**

[Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 2, chapter 15, part 18, and the provisions of Title 2, chapter 15, part 18, apply to [section 1].

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{Name : Sheri S. Scurr
Title : Research Analyst
Agency: Legislative Services Division
Phone : (406) 444-3596

E-Mail: sscurr@mt.gov}